



Col. E. Lester Jones

Father of the NOAA Corps

1876 - 1929

Following World War I, Americans saw an explosion in the study of hydrography, geodesy, seismology and terrestrial magnetism. Much of that activity can be traced to one man:

E. Lester Jones, director of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1915 to 1929. A "resourceful administrator" with a gift for coordinating scientific research, Jones is credited with "increasing largely our supply of reliable maps and supervising the use of new devices for making our waters safer."

An Army colonel in World War I, Jones was instrumental in creating the Commissioned Corps, now the NOAA Corps--the seventh uniformed service of the United States.



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